

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 97

Calling upon Haiti's political leaders to seek agreement on transparent, free,
and widely participatory elections, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 1999

Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. DIXON, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. OWENS, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. PAYNE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Calling upon Haiti's political leaders to seek agreement on
transparent, free, and widely participatory elections, and
for other purposes.

Whereas Haiti has been without a functioning government
since June 1997, because Haiti's political leaders have
failed to come to agreement on a prime minister and
have failed to resolve the contested April 1997 elections;

Whereas this lack of a functioning government and of a will-
ingness to compromise has hindered the flow of inter-
national assistance to and increased the suffering of the
Haitian people;

Whereas this suffering has drained the Haitian people's confidence in democracy and eroded international goodwill for Haiti;

Whereas the House of Representatives is concerned that the political impasse between President Préval and the Parliament is having an adverse effect on democracy in Haiti and may adversely influence the independence of the Haitian national police;

Whereas the murder of Senator Jean-Yvon Toussaint on March 1, 1999, contributes to a climate of insecurity and mistrust; and

Whereas any replacement of elected local officials threatens to undermine the ability of Haiti to conduct fully free and fair elections: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) calls on Haiti's political leaders to seek
3 compromise and agreement in order to form a non-
4 partisan, professional, and competent provisional
5 electoral council that can convene transparent, free,
6 and widely participatory elections as soon as prac-
7 tically possible; and

8 (2) affirms the commitment made by the
9 United Nations to support only an electoral process
10 that is free and fair and open to participation by all
11 of Haiti's political and civil society leaders.

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